



Open Space Committee

Minutes

December 10, 2015, 7:30pm
Town Hall Annex, first floor

Present: Elizabeth Karpati, Joey Glushko, David White, Ann LeRoyer, John Pickle, Jane Auger,

Not present: Elena Bartholomew, Theresa DeBenedictis

Guests: Kelsey Cowen and Wendy Richter, potential OSC members

Old Business:

Minutes of previous meeting 11/12/15 - accepted with additions/corrections

Annual Town Report is due by January 15, 2016. Ann will prepare final copy and send it around for comments.

Open Space and Recreation Plan 2015-2022 is at the printer; 15 copies to be printed. Some monies are available from an old OSC account.

New Web Application (Experiencing Arlington's Open Spaces) is on the Town website home page and on the OSC page. Nothing has been run yet in the Advocate, but it has appeared on the Arlington List and other sites including Your Arlington. We need to improve placement on the OSC page so it shows up in the top of the screen. We also need to improve accessibility of images for phones and tablets within Town Hall.

Connecting Arlington's Open Spaces - Kelsey Cowen is coordinating this Walking Trails project proposal, with a pilot project in East Arlington. A public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 14, 6-8 pm at Fox Library. It's being publicized with fliers, news release, Advocate article, Arlington List and Facebook page.

Picture Post Project – John and David are working on expanding the project to the Reservoir. Images can be downloaded to an app at University of New Hampshire for future analysis and viewing -- <http://www.picturepost.unh.edu>

New Business:

Mugar project has been initially approved by Mass Housing; now it will go on to next phase with reviews by Zoning Board of Appeals and other town committees.

20 Westminster St/Downing Square - new 40B affordable housing project by Arlington Housing Corporation in an existing building with no parking. OSC is on the list of committees approved to review new 40B projects. Ann attended the first hearing on

December 8 and will write a letter of support on behalf of OSC, particularly noting that existing open spaces will not be built on and will be enhanced with new landscaping and pathways.

Announcements:

Sustainable Arlington Holiday Party will be held Saturday Dec 19th, 7-9pm at Arlington Unitarian Universalist Church

Ecofest on Saturday, March 19 - "Are You Ready for Climate Change?"

CPC - Community Preservation Committee: 1/20/16 public meeting to solicit ideas about prioritizing projects for CPA funding; CPC plans to use the OSC plan and Town Master Plan for ideas.

Arlington Land Trust meeting 1/26/16. Town Manager Adam Chapdelaine will be the guest speaker on Town energy initiatives.

Monday 1/25/16 Special Town Meeting, primarily to discuss school overcrowding and proposed solutions.

Water Bodies Fund administered by the Town DPW for Spy Pond, Reservoir, Hill's Pond, primarily. Con Com formed a work group and identified 5 lakes and 9 streams that should be included. They will suggest priorities and submit information to Town Meeting to request study money. Mill Brook is on the list...

Adjourned 9:15pm

Next Meetings:

January 28, February 25, March 24, April 28, May 26, June 23

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Auger